

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 FREETO 00283 131315Z

46

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 /011 W
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P 131305Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 748

UNCLAS FREETOWN 0283

AF/W FOR SEGARS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL, SL
SUBJECT: INVITATION TO FREETOWN YOUTH CLUB

1. EDWARD J. AKAR, FREETOWN BARRISTER AND BROTHER OF FORMER GOSL AMBASSADOR TO US JOHN AKAR, HAS ASKED EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN CONTACTING DR. S.M. THOMAS, CHAIRMAN, INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION, 1831 CALIFORNIA STREET, WASHINGTON DC WHO IN NOVEMBER 1974 INVITED FREETOWN YOUTH CLUB TO COME TO US TO ATTEND CULTURAL FESTIVAL IN WASHINGTON FEB 11-28, AT WHICH CLUB WOULD STAGE THREE PLAYS. DR. THOMAS PROMISED ISA WOULD PAY TRAVEL FUNDS AND MINIMAL EXPENSES FOR GROUP OF 30 CLUB MEMBERS INCLUDING AKAR WHO IS GROUP'S ADVISOR. HOWEVER, SINCE DEC 13, CLUB HAS HEARD NOTHING FROM THOMAS ABOUT DETAILS OF ARRANGEMENTS MADE DESPITE NUMEROUS COMMERCIAL CABLES AND LETTERS SEND FROM THIS END.
2. GROUP LEFT IN LURCH, HAVING SPENT HUNDREDS OF LEONES IN PREPARATION AND HAVING SOLICITED SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDS FROM TOP FIGURES GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY INCLUDING PRESIDENT STEVENS. FAILURE OF GROU TO TRAVEL WOULD NOW BE EXTREMELY EMBARRASSING TO THEM AND REFLECT ADVERSELY ON U.S. REQUEST DEPARTMENT CONTACT DR. THOMAS TO DETERMINE STATUS ARRANGEMENTS AND ADVISE SOONEST.
SAMUELS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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